

## Horticultural crop health and yield and greenhouse soil conditions after 17 years of repeated treatments of biofumigation and solarization

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The combination of biofumigation and solarization is commonly known as biosolarization.

# Biosolarization



**Solarization** + **biofumigation**

A experience was performed from 2003 to 2019 in a greenhouse at INTA San Pedro, Buenos Aires province, Argentina (33°44'12.7"S 59°47'58.2"W).



**INTA San Pedro  
Buenos Aires province**



Treatments (TRAT) were applied every two years



Treatments: 1=Control; 2= Solarization, 3= BIOROT, was a succession of organic amendments (chicken manure, broccoli, chicken manure, broccoli, tomato and pepper crop debris, mustard, tomato crop debris + purslane, broccoli, tomato debris), 4=BIOBRAS was based only on the use of brassicas (rape, broccoli, broccoli, mustard, mustard, mustard, *Brassica campestris*, broccoli, *Brassica campestris*).

	2003	2005	2007/08	2009	2011/12	2014	2016	2017/18	2019/20
Dates	14/11 to 19/12	25/11 to 26/12	18/12 to 29/01	18/11 to 29/12	2/12 to 3/01	22/01 to 10/02	19/01 to 15/02	21/12 to 25/01	11/12 to 17/01
Duration	35	31	42	41	32	12	27	36	37
Transplant date	6 /01/2004	20/10/2006	30/01/ 2008	5/01/ 2010	29/08/2012	24/02/2014	16/02 2016	21/08/2018	
Kg dry matter/m <sup>2</sup>	Manure 1,71/ Rapeseed 0,49	Broccoli 2,53	Broccoli 0,76	Broccoli 2,87	Debris 0,70/ Mustard 0,38	Mustard 0,97	Tomato 1,44 + purslane 1,27/ B. campestris 0,11	Broccoli 10,72	B.Campestris 7,5/ Tomato debris 9,762
Days to transplant	18	174	2	7	235	14	1	147	

1. Control



2. Solarization



3. Biorot



4. Biobras



Canola

Chicken manure

Broccoli

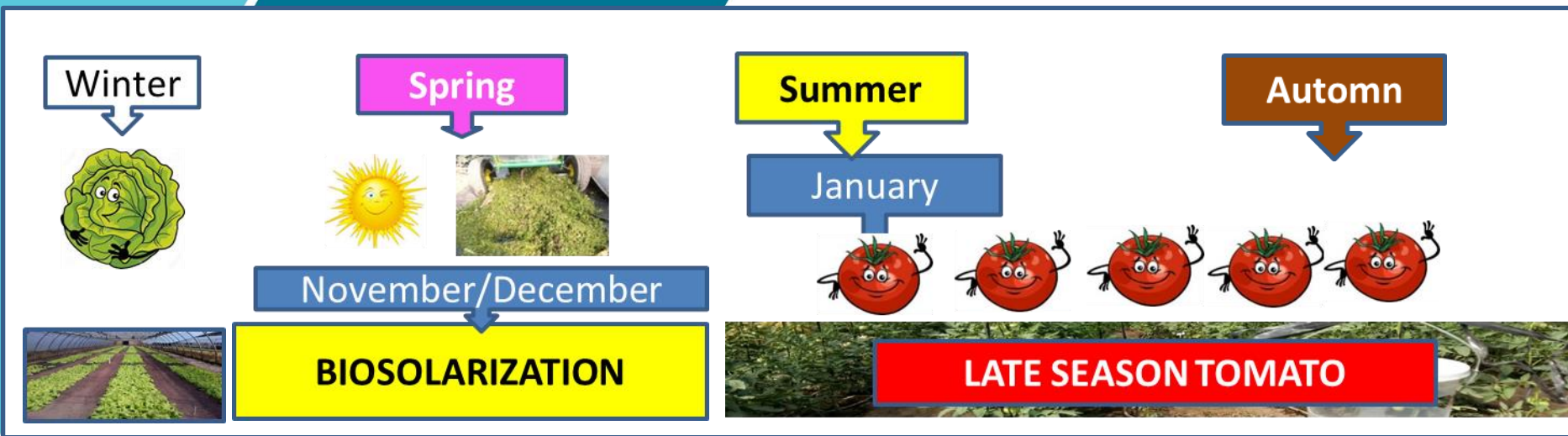
Mustard

Tomato + pepper

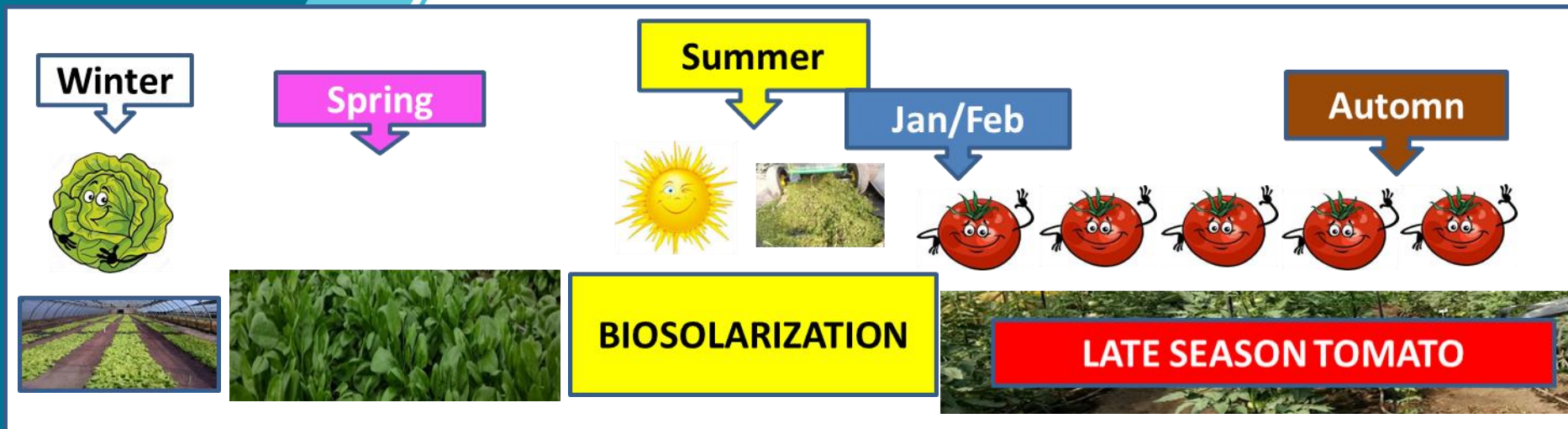
Tomato

*Brassica campestris*

# Treatments were carried out in spring (31-42 days)



# Or in summer (12-37 days)



The tomato hybrid used was Superman (Petoseed), except for the last season where the hybrid used was Rodeo (BHN).

# Some biofumigant examples:



Tomato and pepper debris



Mustard debris



Broccoli debris



Canola

# Biosolarization with canola





# Biosolarization with Broccoli



**Biosolarization  
with  
Brassica  
campestris**



**Biosolarization  
with  
tomato and  
pepper residues**





**Tissue  
maceration with  
a chipper**



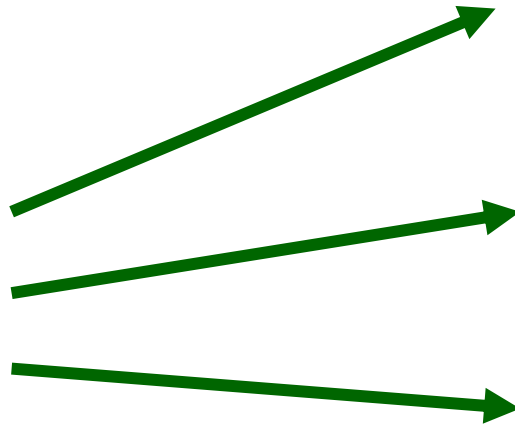
# Incorporation with rototiller, installation of irrigation system





Cover with plastic





**Nematode analysis**

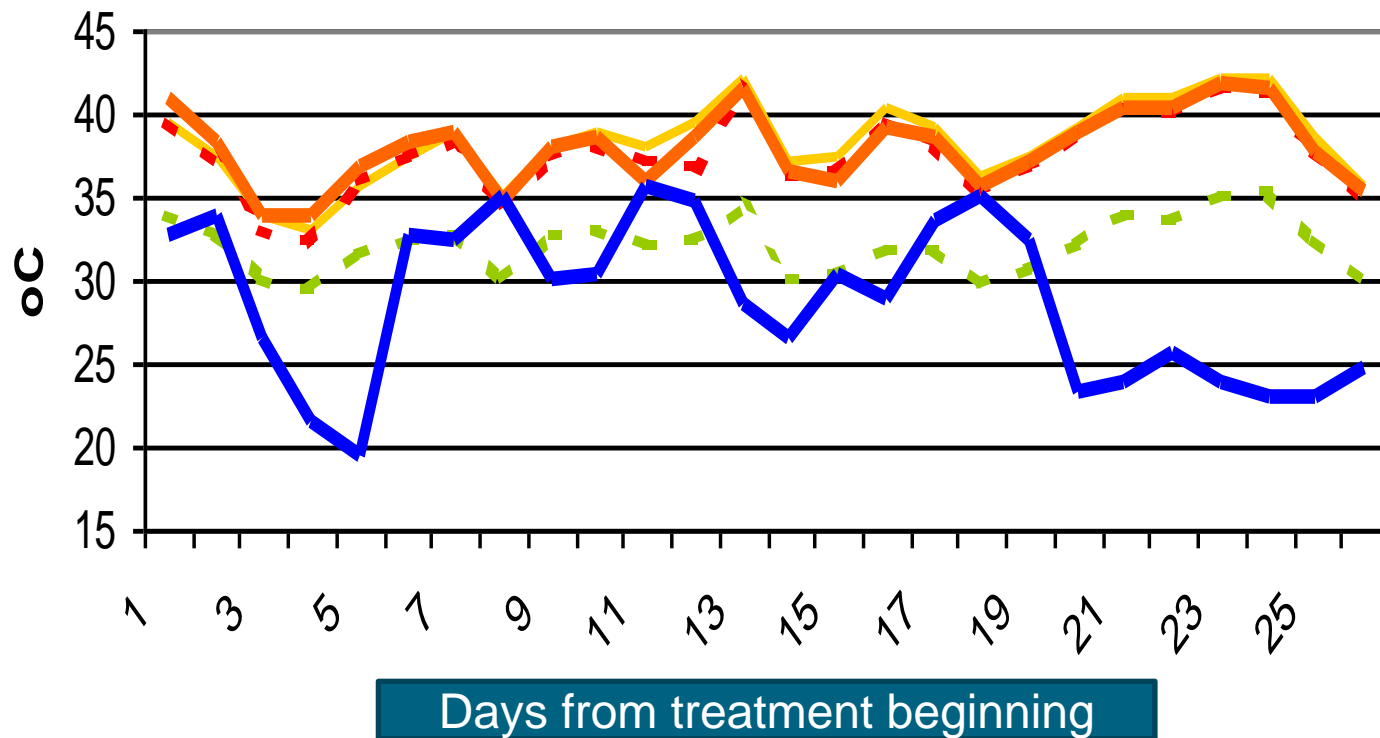
**Soil borne pathogens and beneficial microorganisms**

**Soil properties**

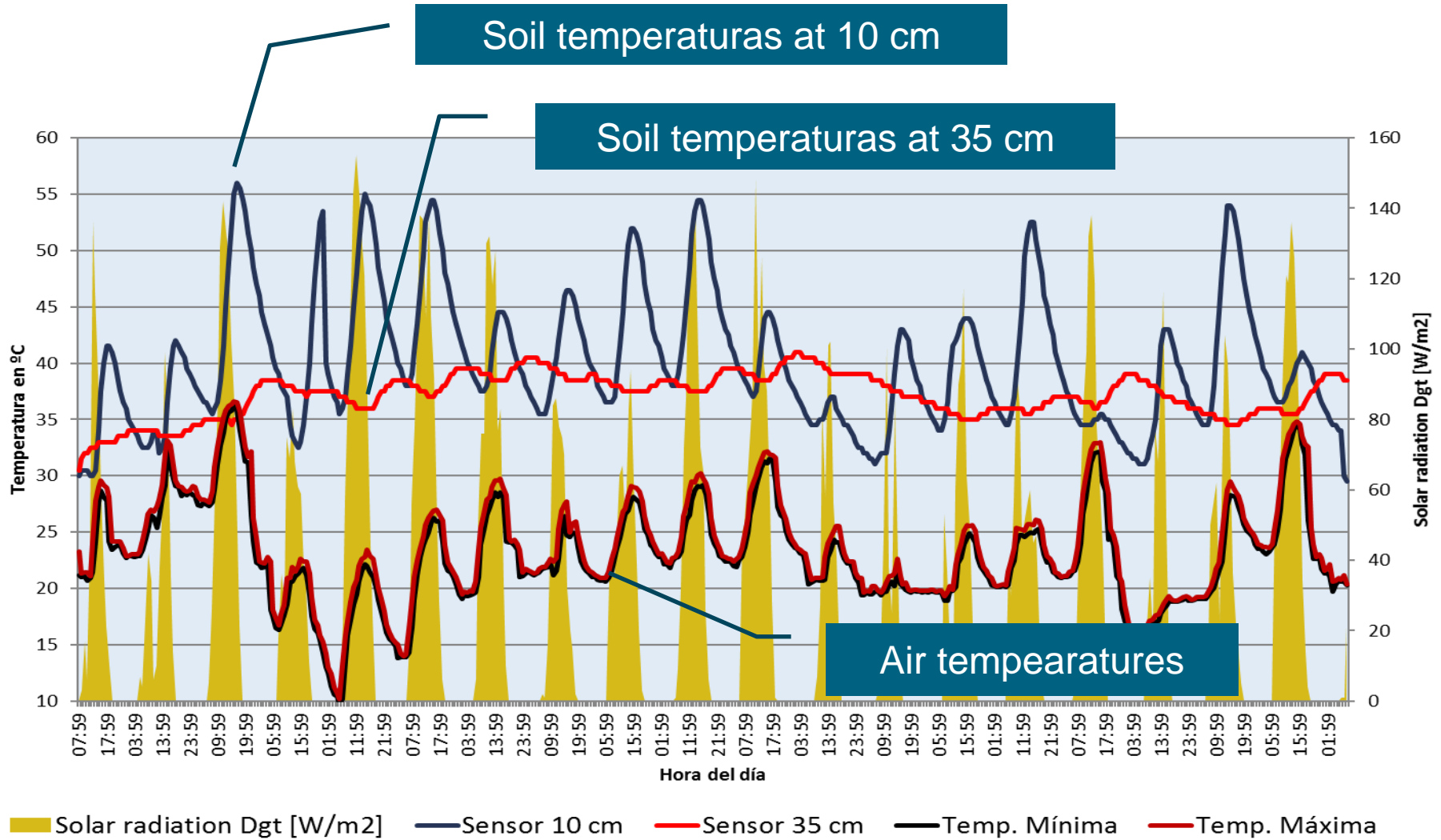


# Air and soil temperatures during biosolarization

Spring: November 14 th to december 19 th 2003



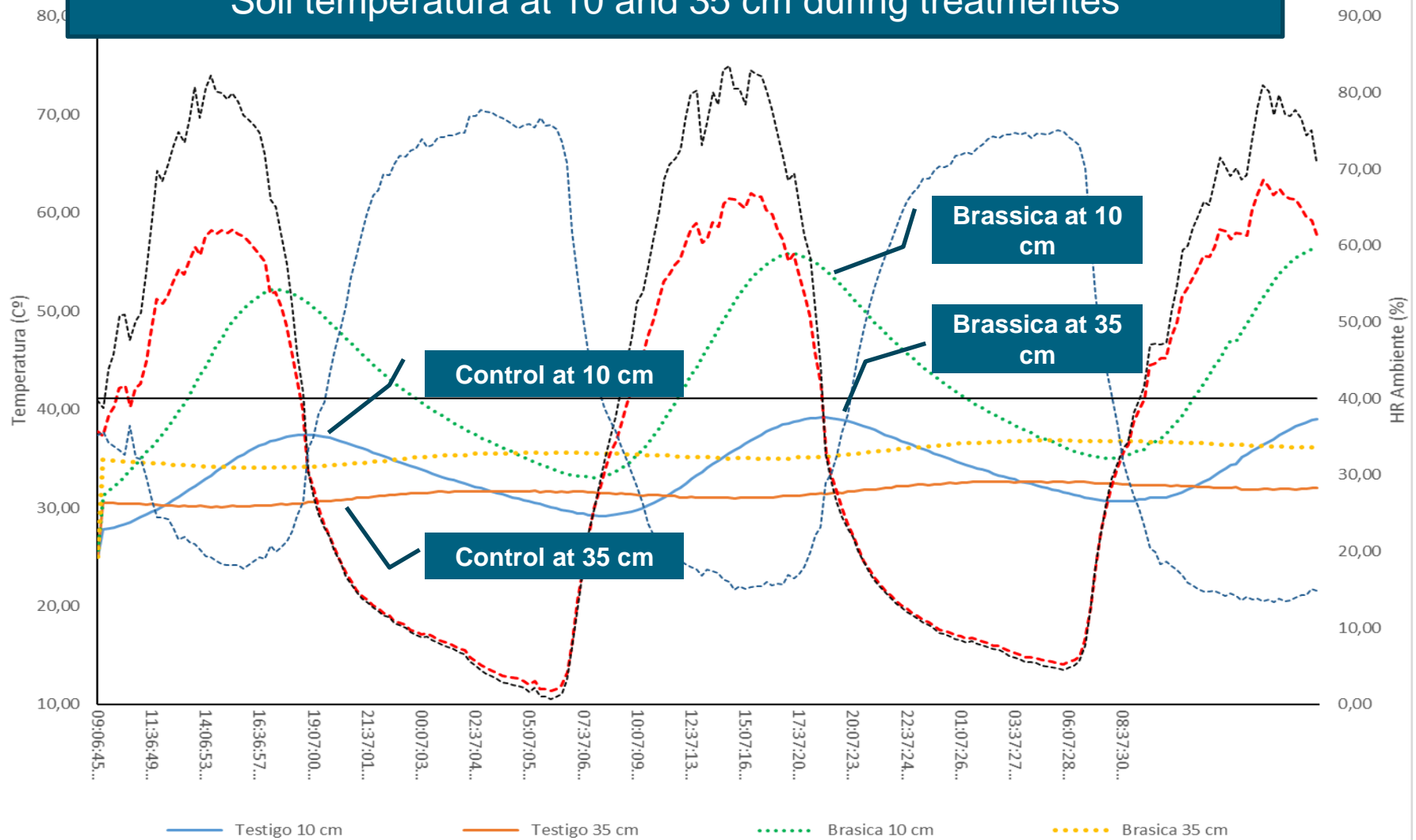
# Summer January 22 th to february 10 th 2014





Summer December 21 th to January 16 th 2020

Soil temperatura at 10 and 35 cm during tratmentes



The image shows the interior of a long, arched greenhouse. The structure is supported by a metal frame with curved ribs. The ground is covered with a layer of green plastic mulch, which is used for weed and pathogen control. A yellow tractor is visible in the distance, working in the greenhouse. The overall scene is well-lit, suggesting a bright day.

Results

Weeds and pathogens control



**Weed control**





**Weed control**




**Control**

**Biosolarization**

Fungal pathogens controlled were *Pyrenochaeta lycopersici*, *Fusarium solani*, *Sclerotium rolfsii* and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, as well as nematodes like *Nacobbus aberrans*, *Helicotylenchus* and *Criconebella*

**Nematodes and soil borne pathogens control**

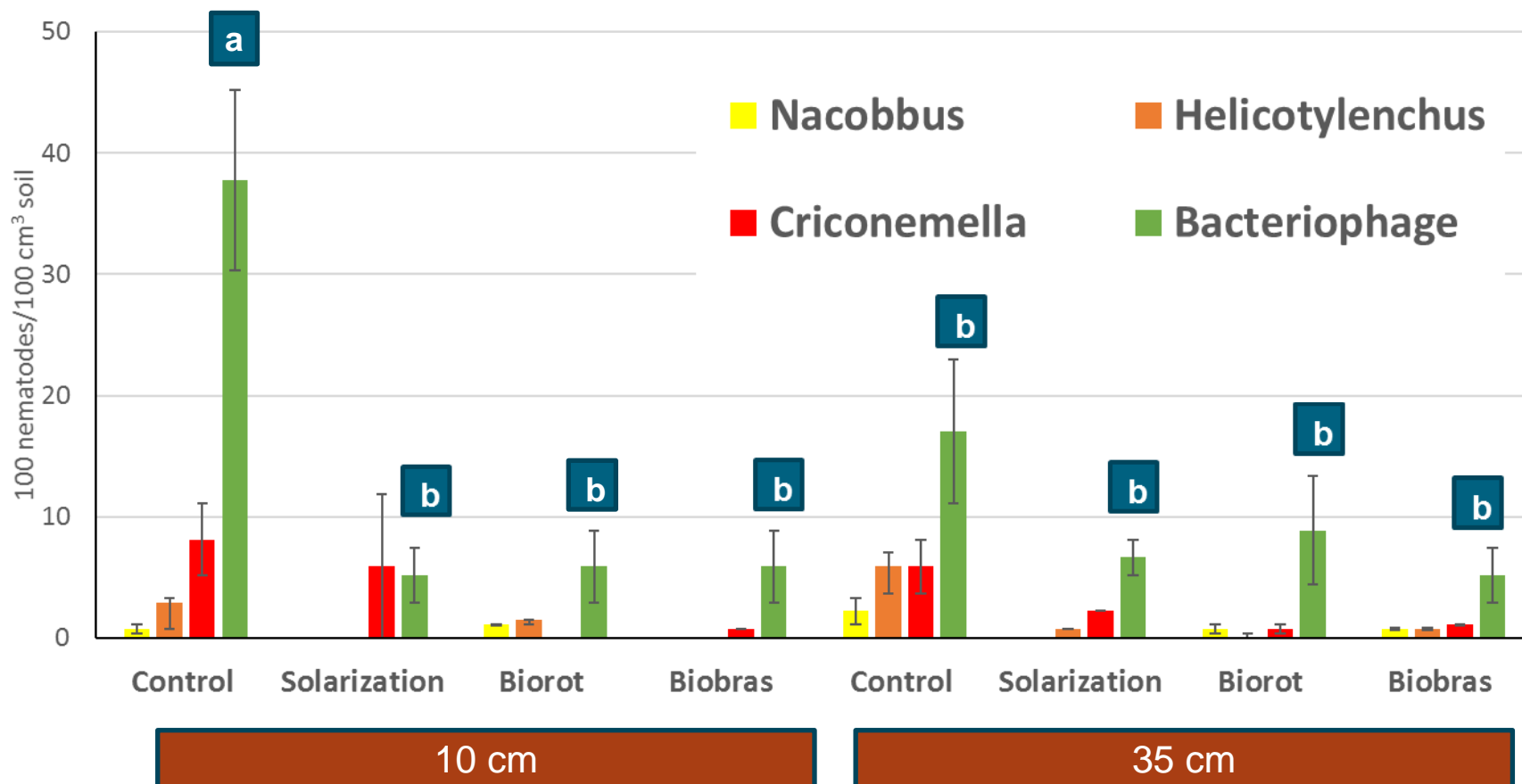


All treatments were efficient for nematode control, but there were not significant differences between solarization and biosolarization.

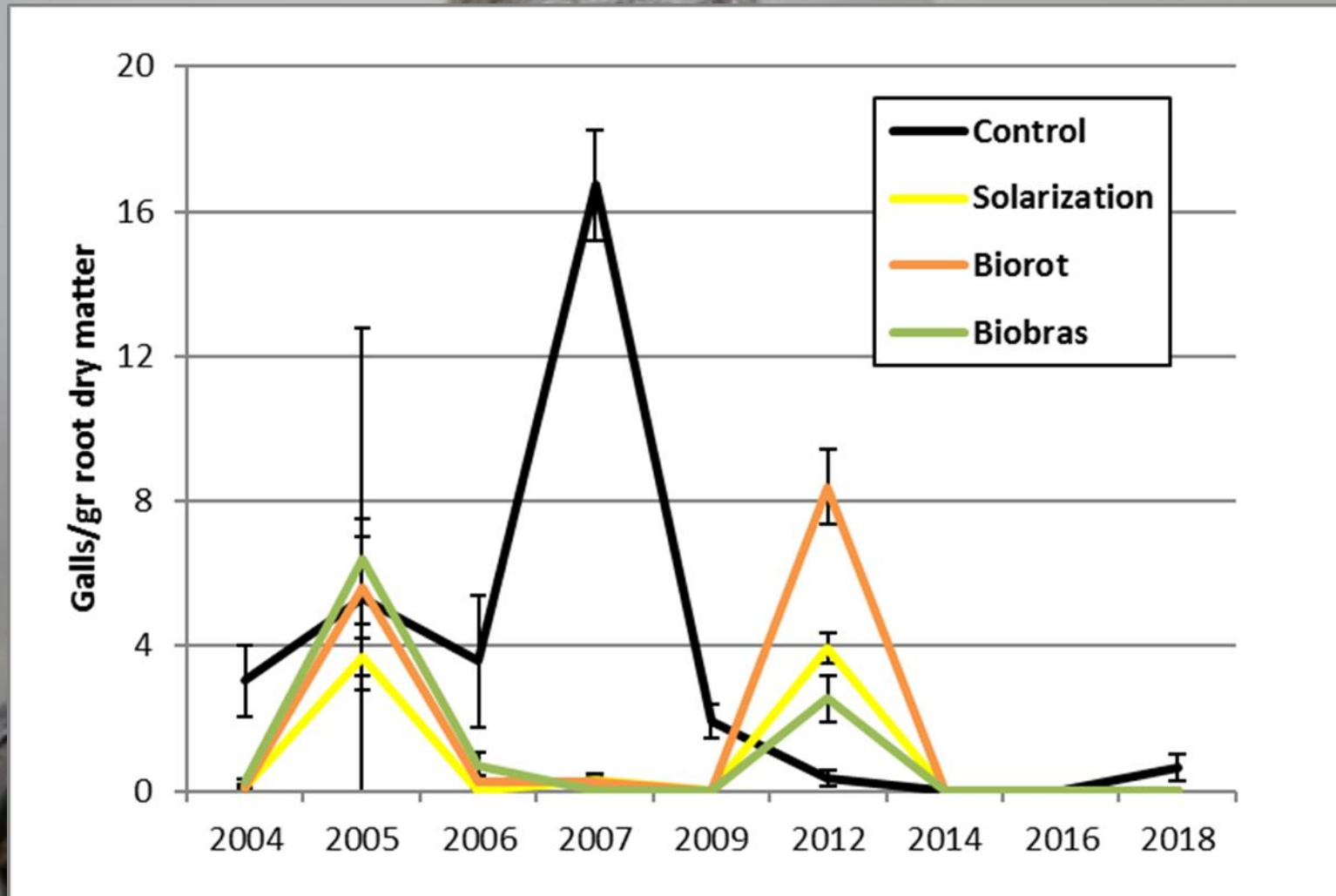
The sum of all the phytophagous nematodes (*Nacobbus aberrans*, *Helycotilenchus* spp. and *Criconemella* spp.), showed differences before the treatments in 2005 and after the treatments in 2005, 2007 and 2009 (Mitidieri et al., 2011). Analyzes performed more than 24 months after treatments, showed significant differences ( $P \leq 5\%$ ) in *Nacobbus aberrans* population (Mitidieri et al., 2009).

# Effect of treatments on phytophage and bacteriophage nematodes

Nematodes/100 cm<sup>3</sup> of soil after treatments. December 2005. Biorot= Manure/Broccoli, Biobras= Rapeseed/Broccoli.  
Media with different letters statistically differ for Duncan test at 5 %.



# Effect of treatments *Nacobbus aberrans* incidence at the end of crop cycle of tomato

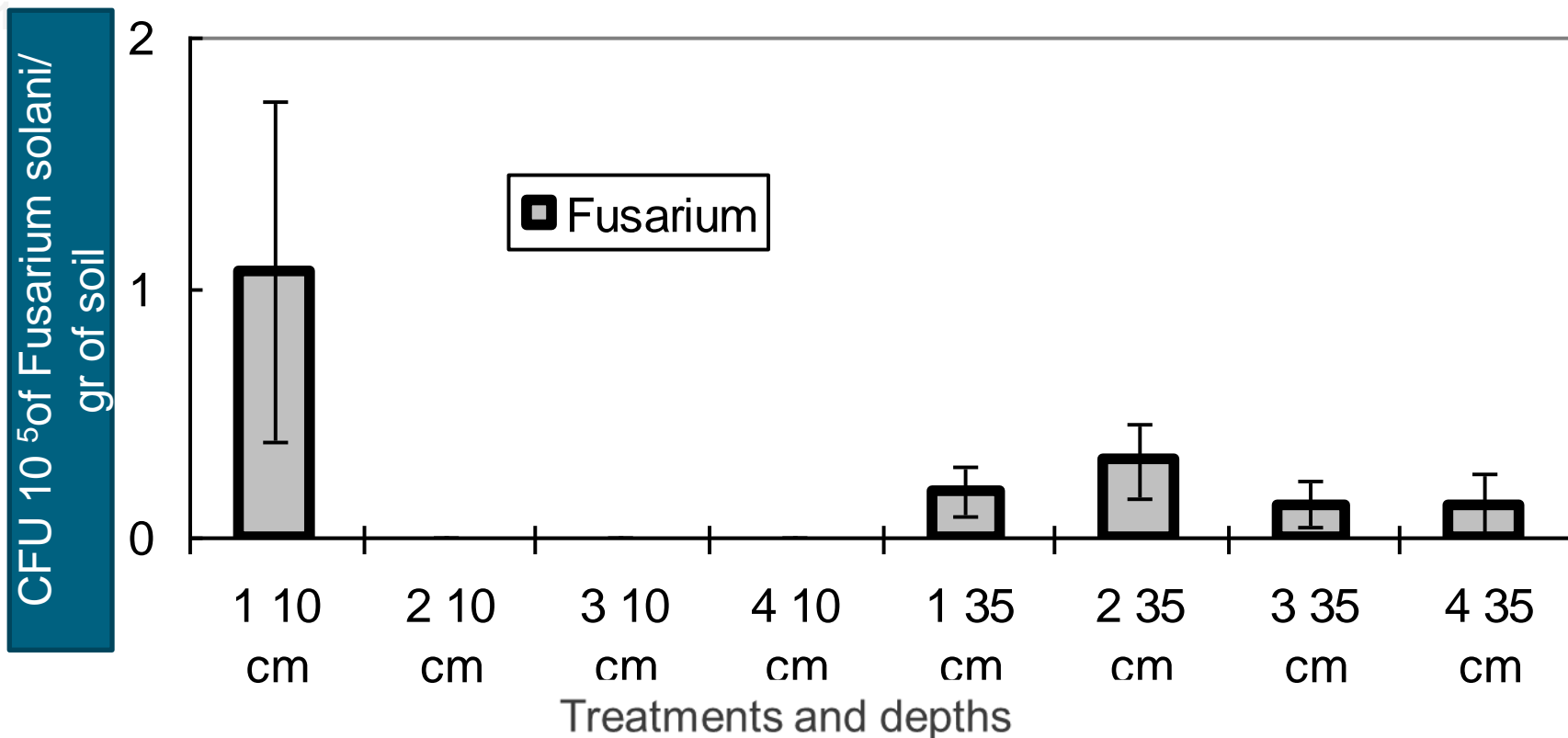


Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas



# *Fusarium solani* colonies in soil dilutions plated on APG growth media

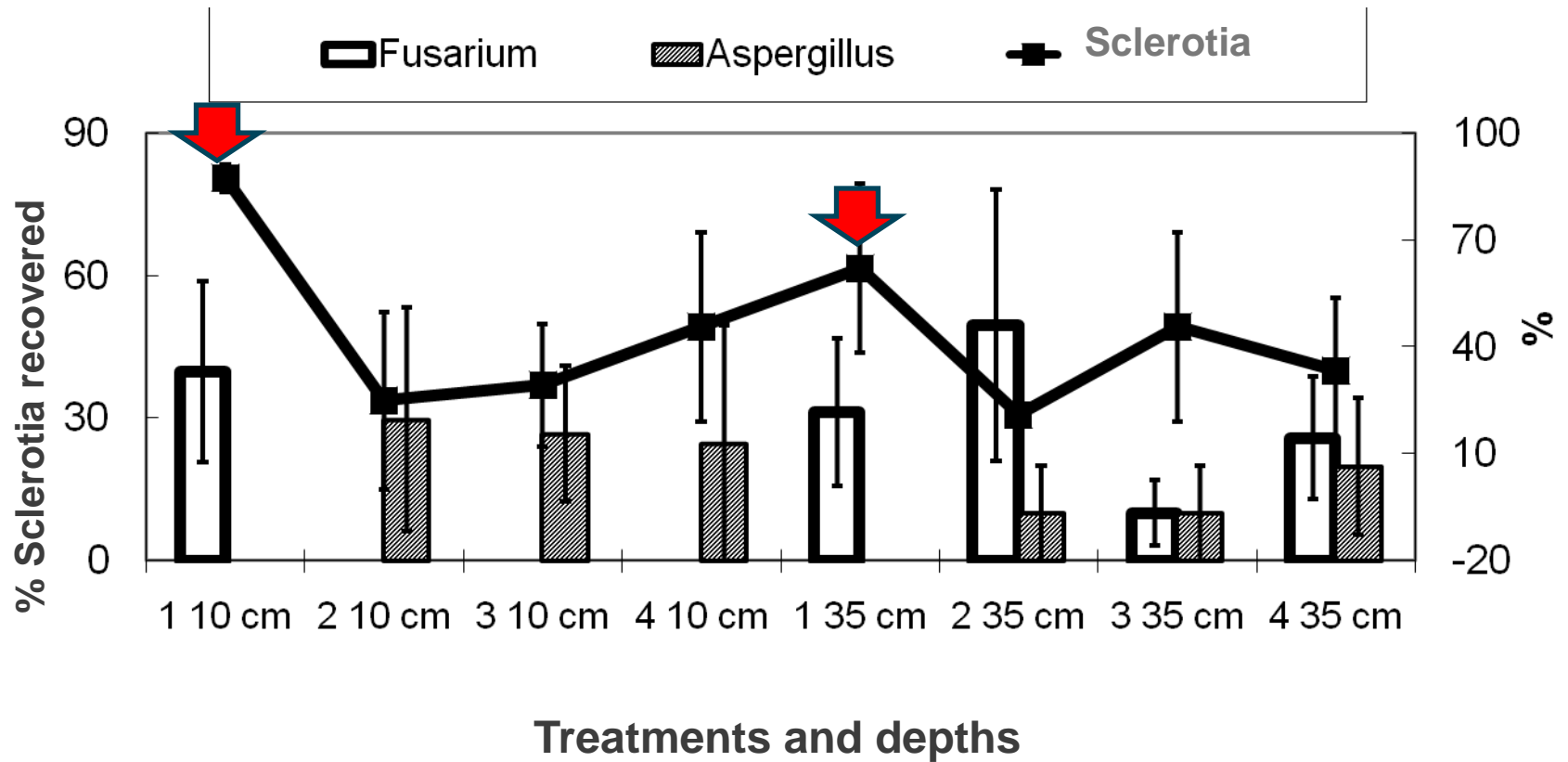
## Samples obtained after treatments , december 2005



1. Control, 2. Solarization/Solarization. 3. Manure/Broccoli y 4. Rapeseed/ Brocoli.

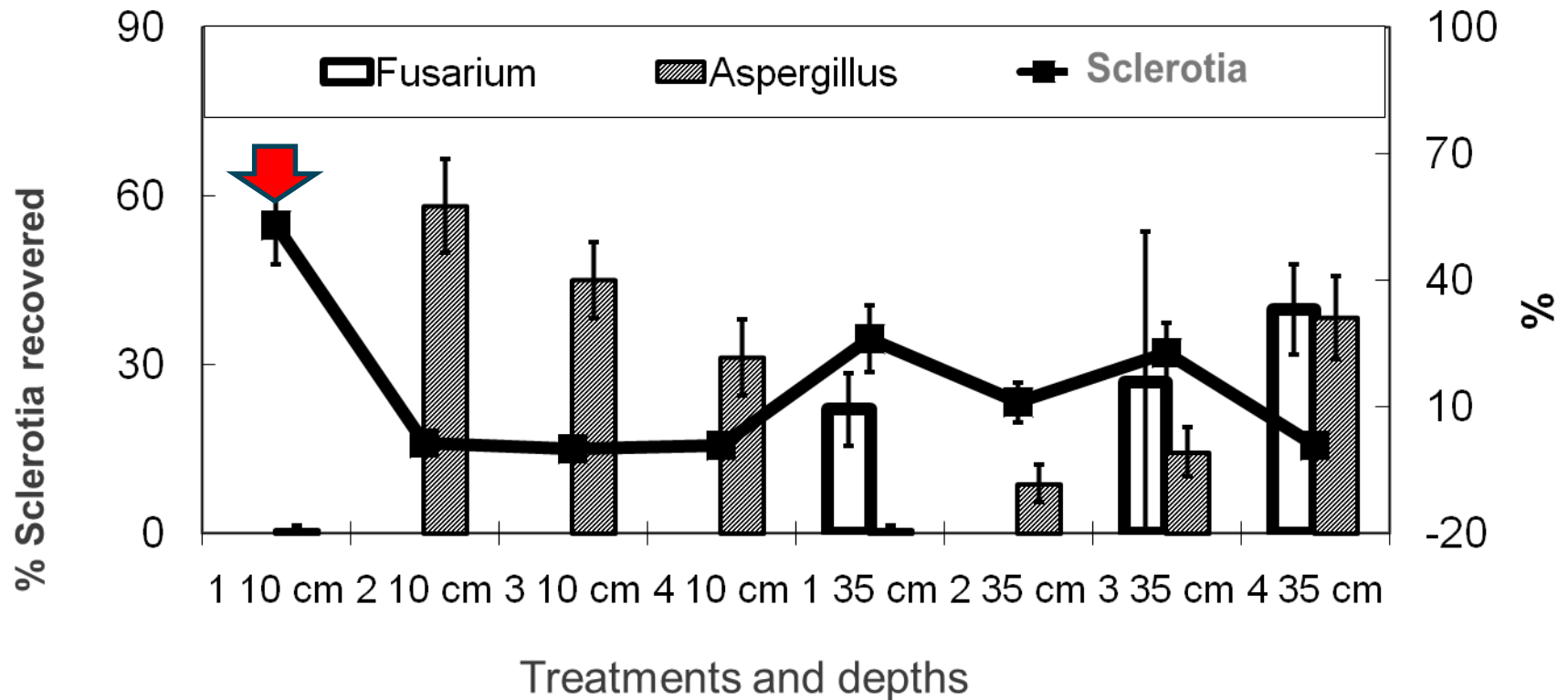
In 2005 significant differences ( $P \leq 5\%$ ) were obtained for the interaction treatment by depth for *Fusarium solani* CFU. This pathogen was found at 10 cm only in the control, but in all treatments at 35 cm (Mitidieri et al., 2009).

***Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* sclerotia  
recovered after treatments. December 2005.**



1. Control, 2. Solarization/Solarization. 3. Manure/Broccoli y 4. Rapeseed/Broccoli.

## *Sclerotium rolsii* sclerotia recovered after treatments



1. Control, 2. Solarization/Solarization. 3. Manure/Broccoli y 4. Rapeseed/Broccoli.

In 2014, highly significant differences ( $P \leq 1\%$ ) were obtained for the interaction treatment by depth, with a lower presence of the pathogen in the treated plots and at 35 cm.

Until now, colonies of *Pyrenochaeta lycopersici* could not be recovered after the treatments. This result could match with the fact that the pathogen attacks in periods of low temperatures, and its control by solarization is recommended.

Regarding the presence of other pathogens, in 2009, a reduction in the population of *Pythium spp.* was observed (Mitidieri et al., 2011).

# Sclerotinia

## Sclerotiorum control

19/01 to 15/02 2016



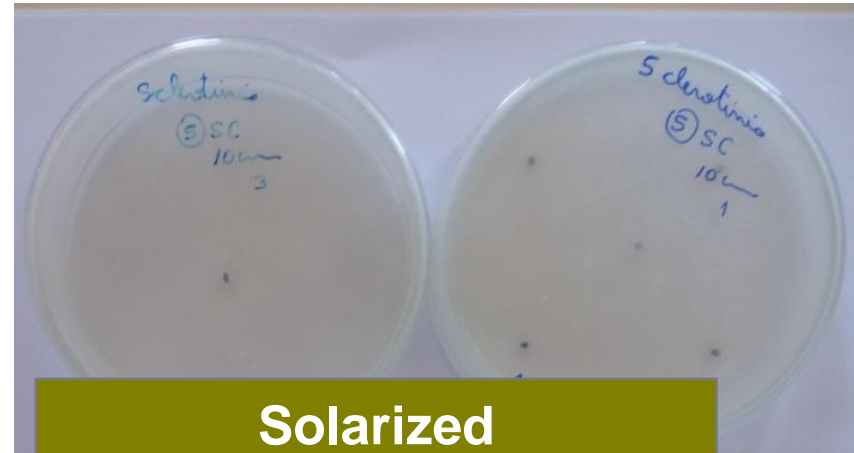
Sclerotia out of the greenhouse



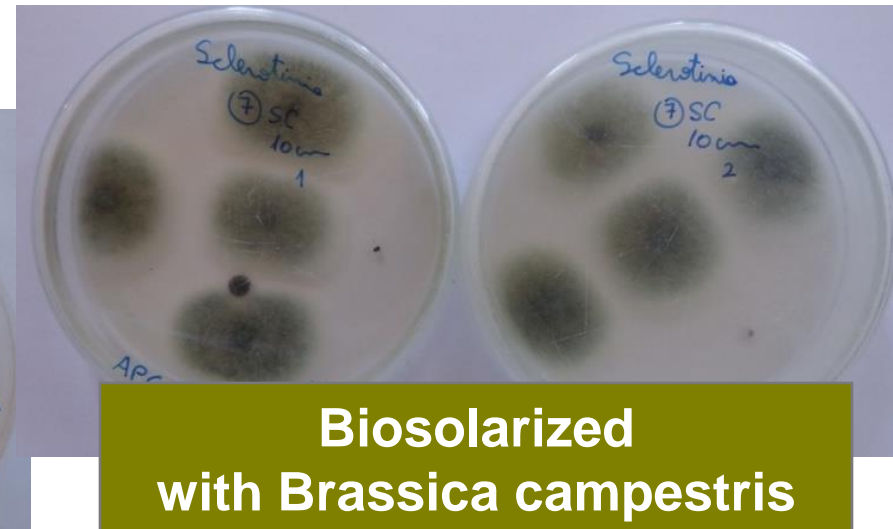
Control



Biosolarized with tomato debris



Solarized



Biosolarized with Brassica campestris

# Germination of *Sclerotium rolfsii* after treatments

Fungus of *Aspergillus* genera were observed growing on death sclerotia in  
BIOBRAS and BIOROT.  
18/12 2007 to 29/01 2008

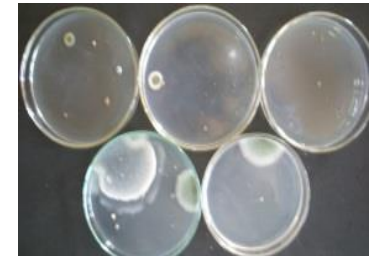
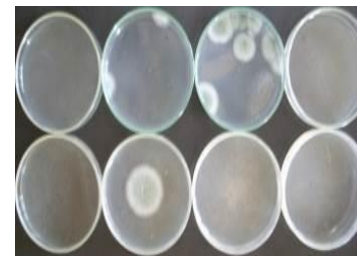
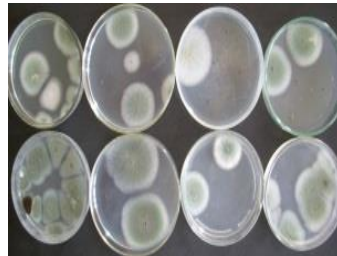
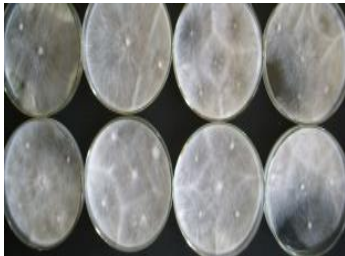
Control

Solarization

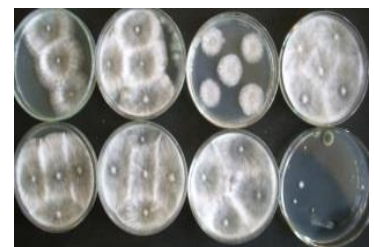
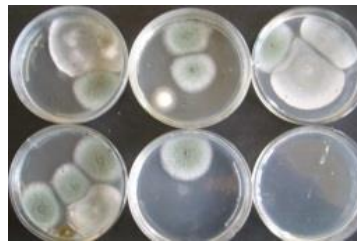
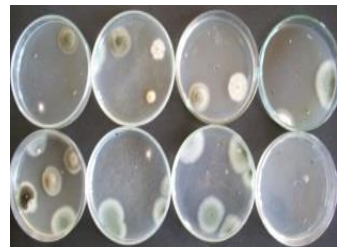
Biorot

Biobras

10 cm

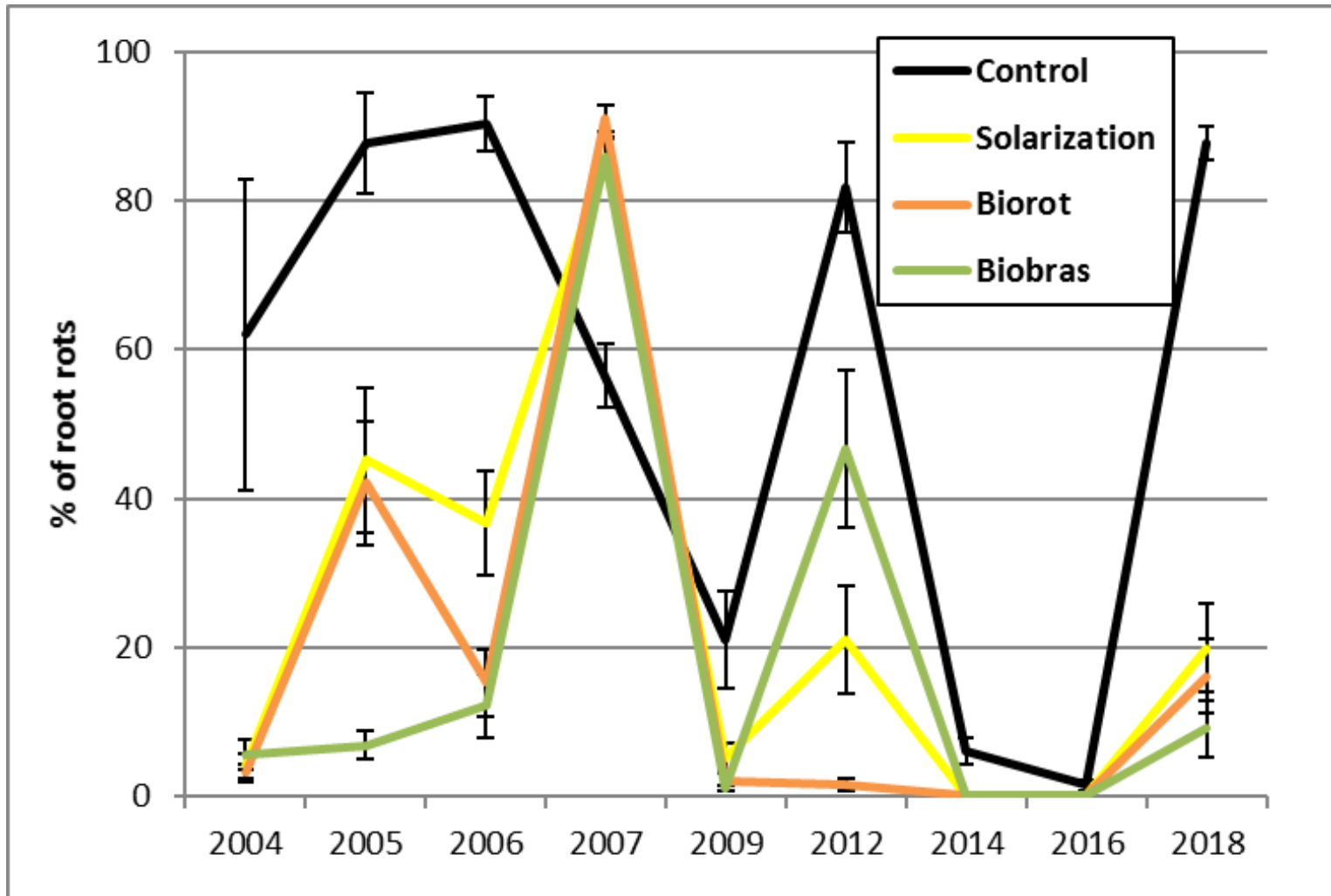


35 cm



Biobras= biosolarization with broccoli debris, Biorot= biosolarization with chicken manure

Tomato plants in control showed higher percentage of death plants, root rots and root dry matter at the end of each crop.



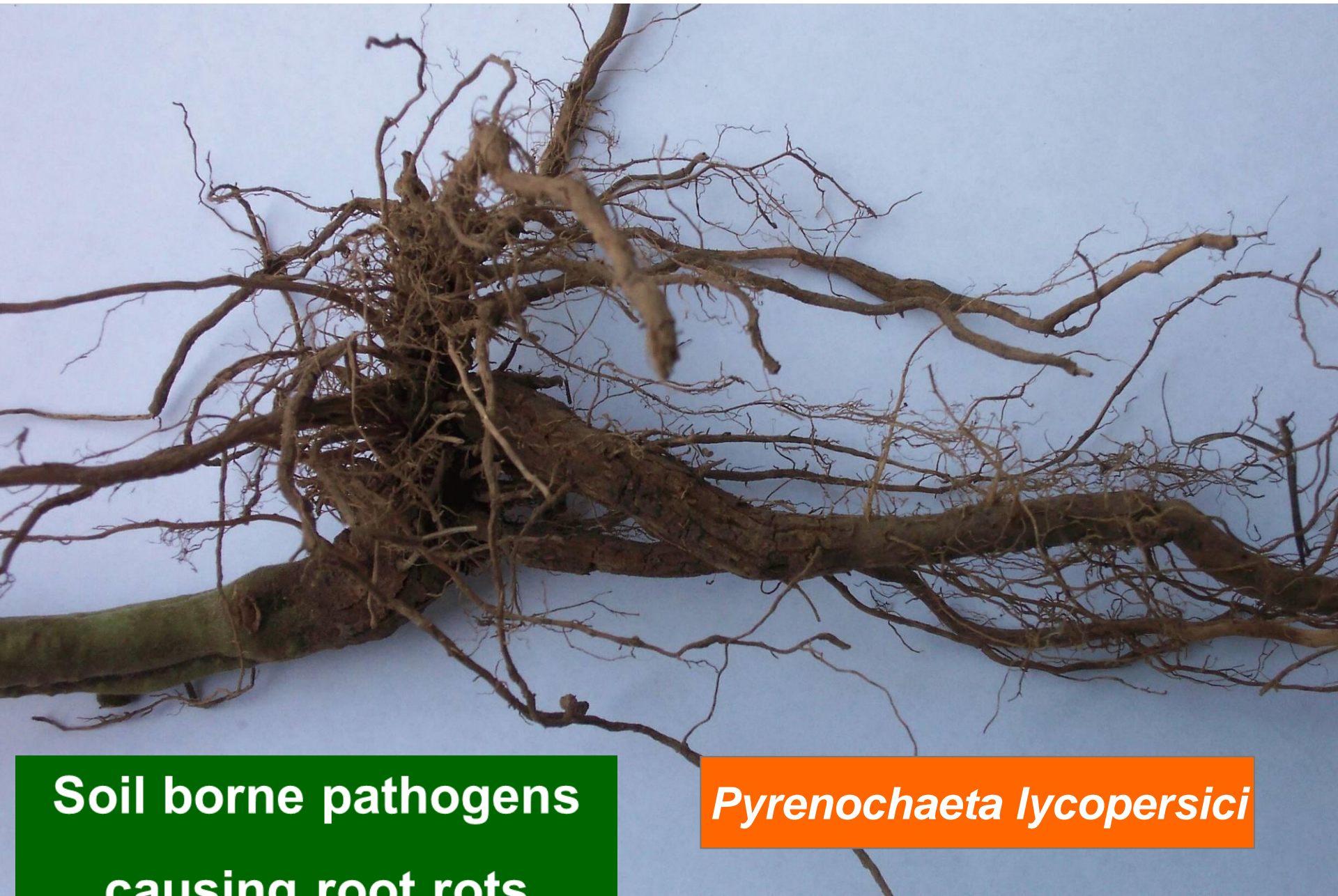
Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas

# Soil borne pathogens causing root rots

*Fusarium solani*



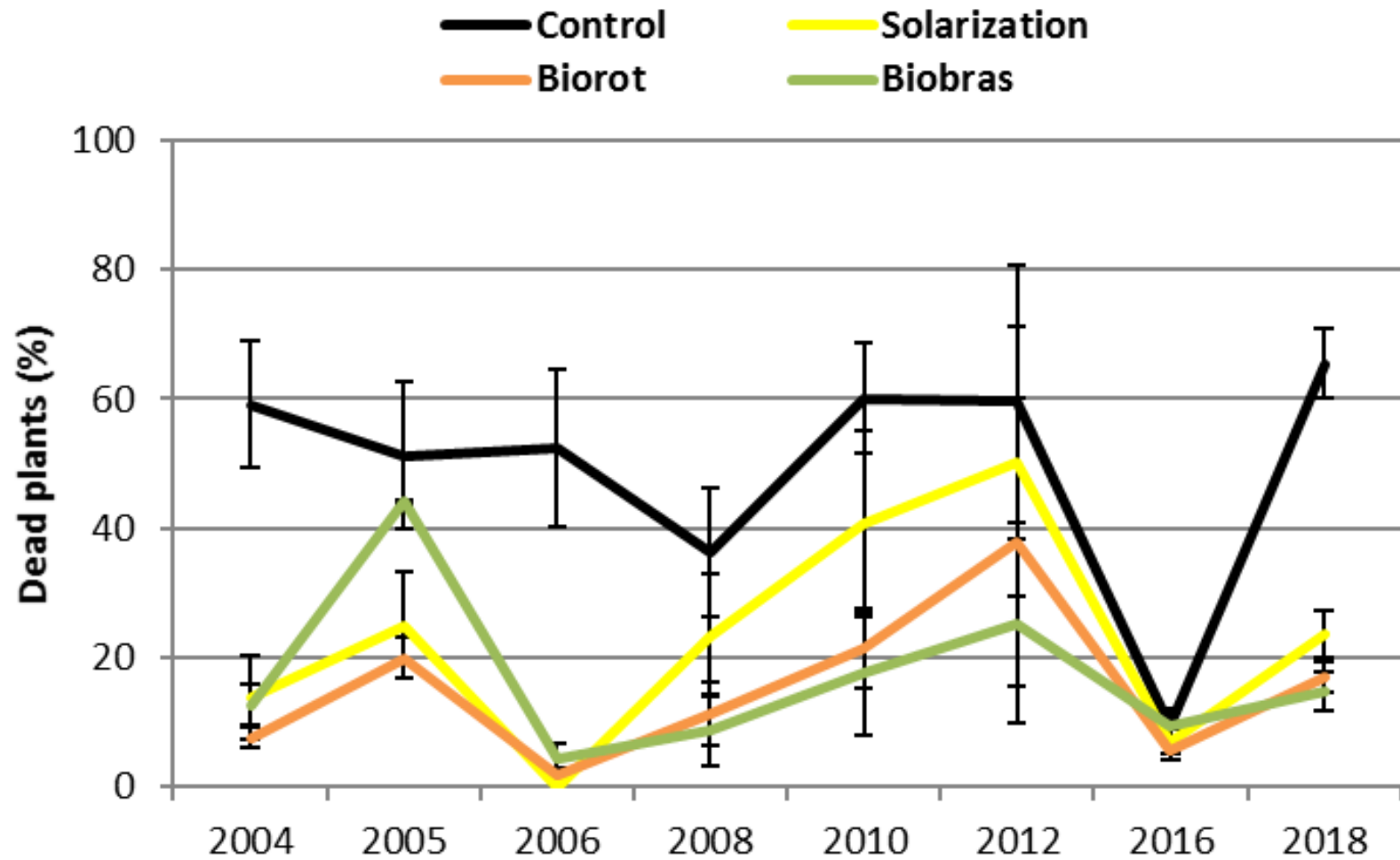




**Soil borne pathogens  
causing root rots**

*Pyrenochaeta lycopersici*

# Effect of treatments on dead plants at the end of crop cycle of tomato



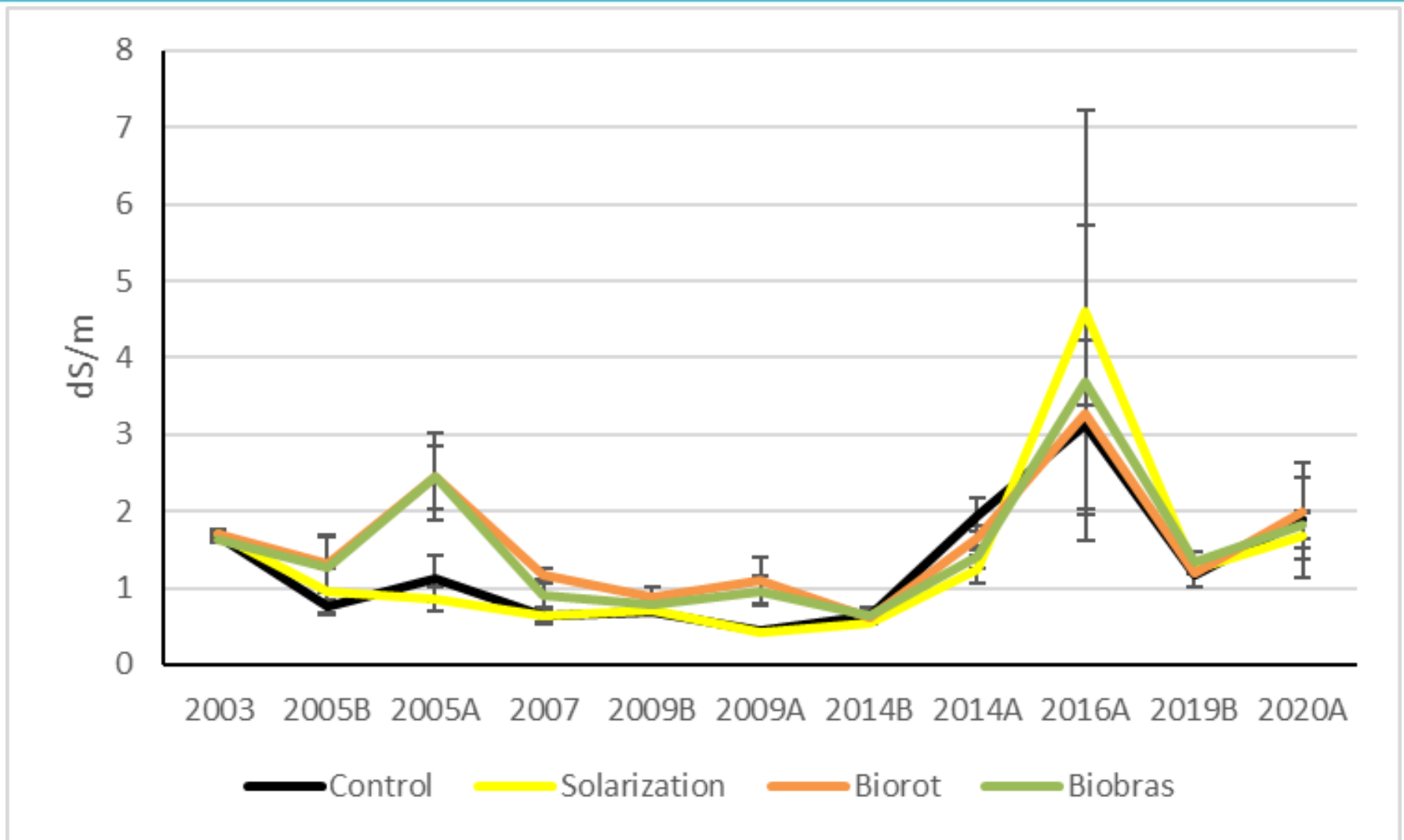
Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas



Results

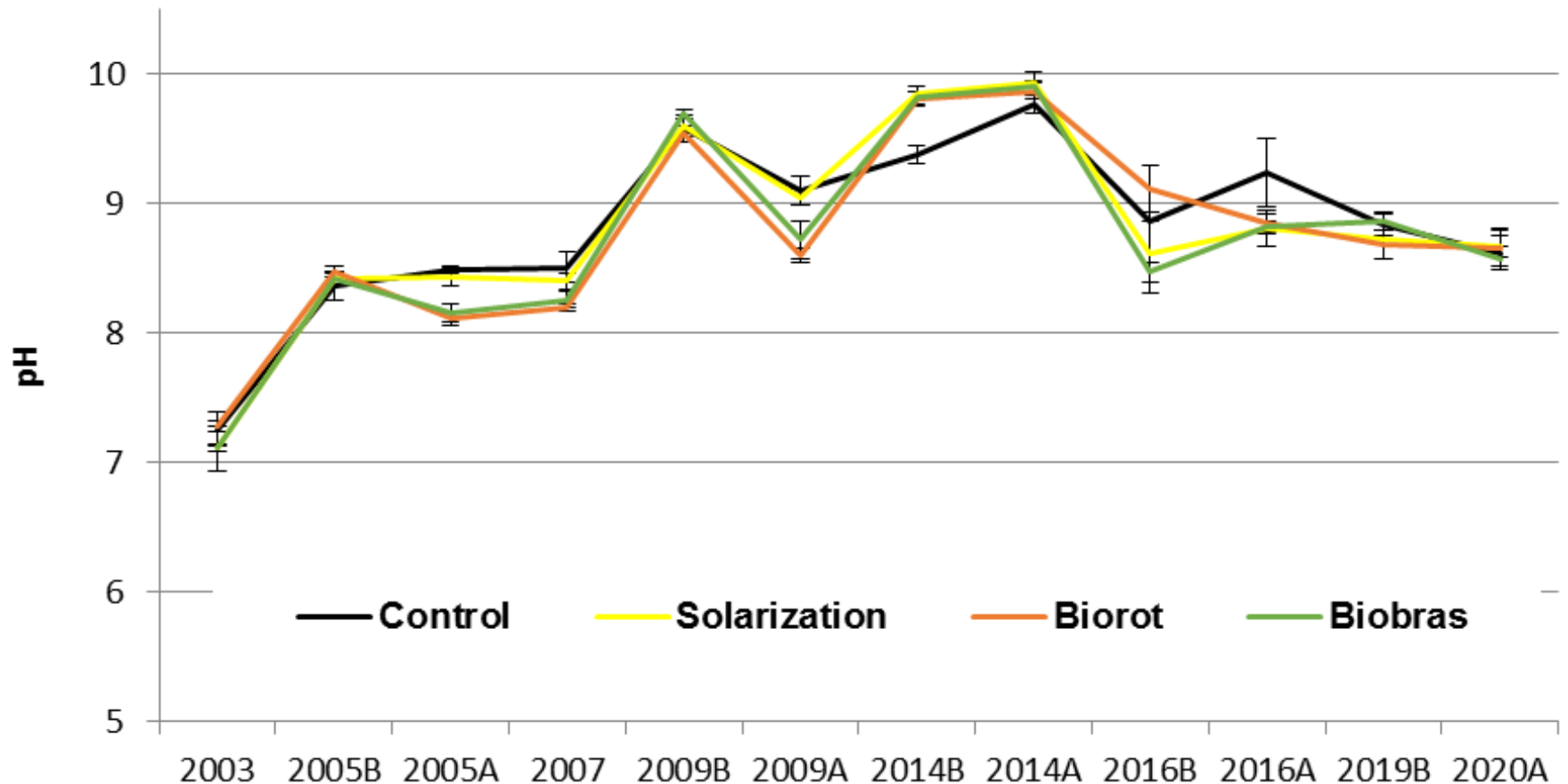
Soil properties and yield

# Effect of treatments on soil electric conductivity



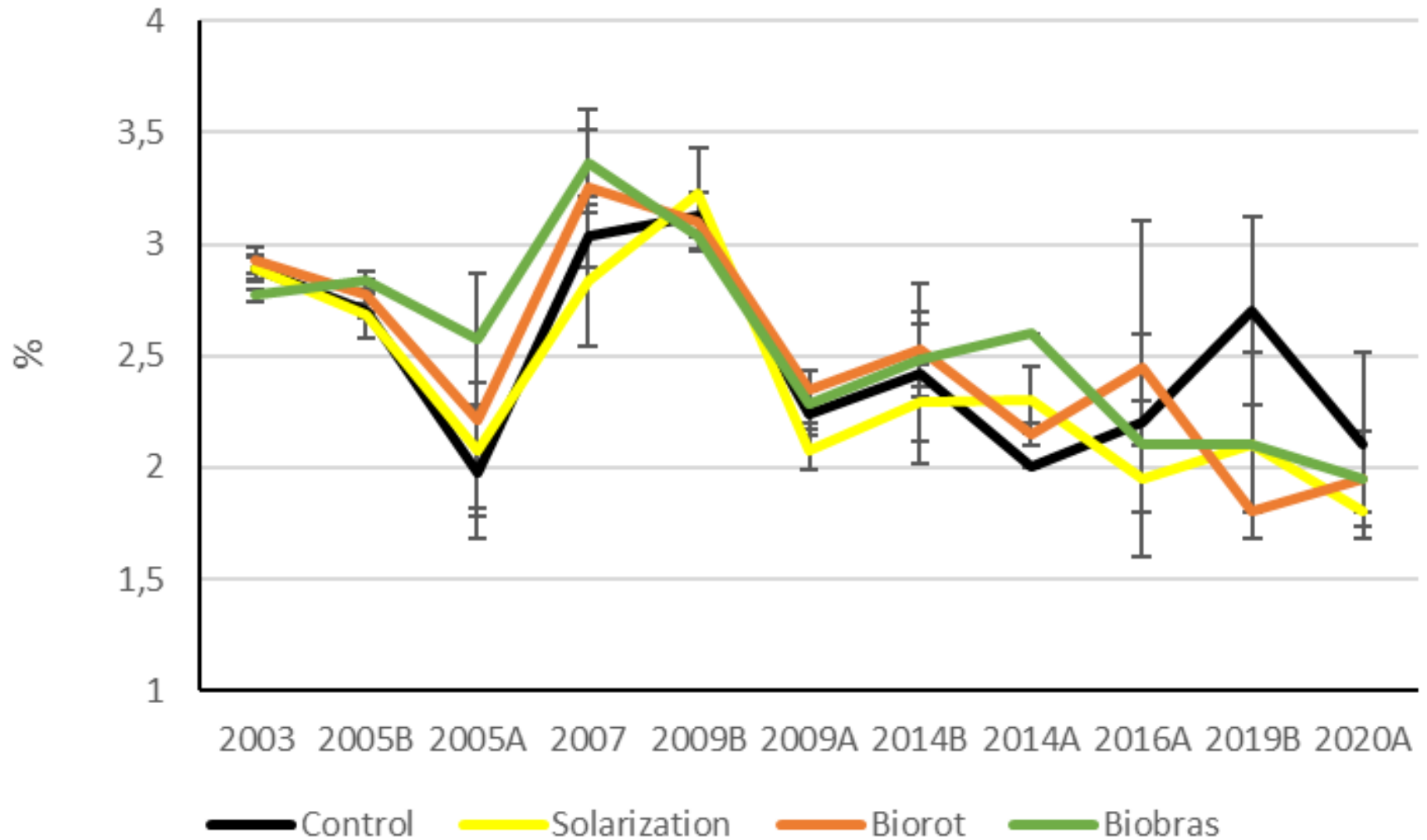
B= before; A= after treatments. Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas.

# Effect of treatments on soil pH



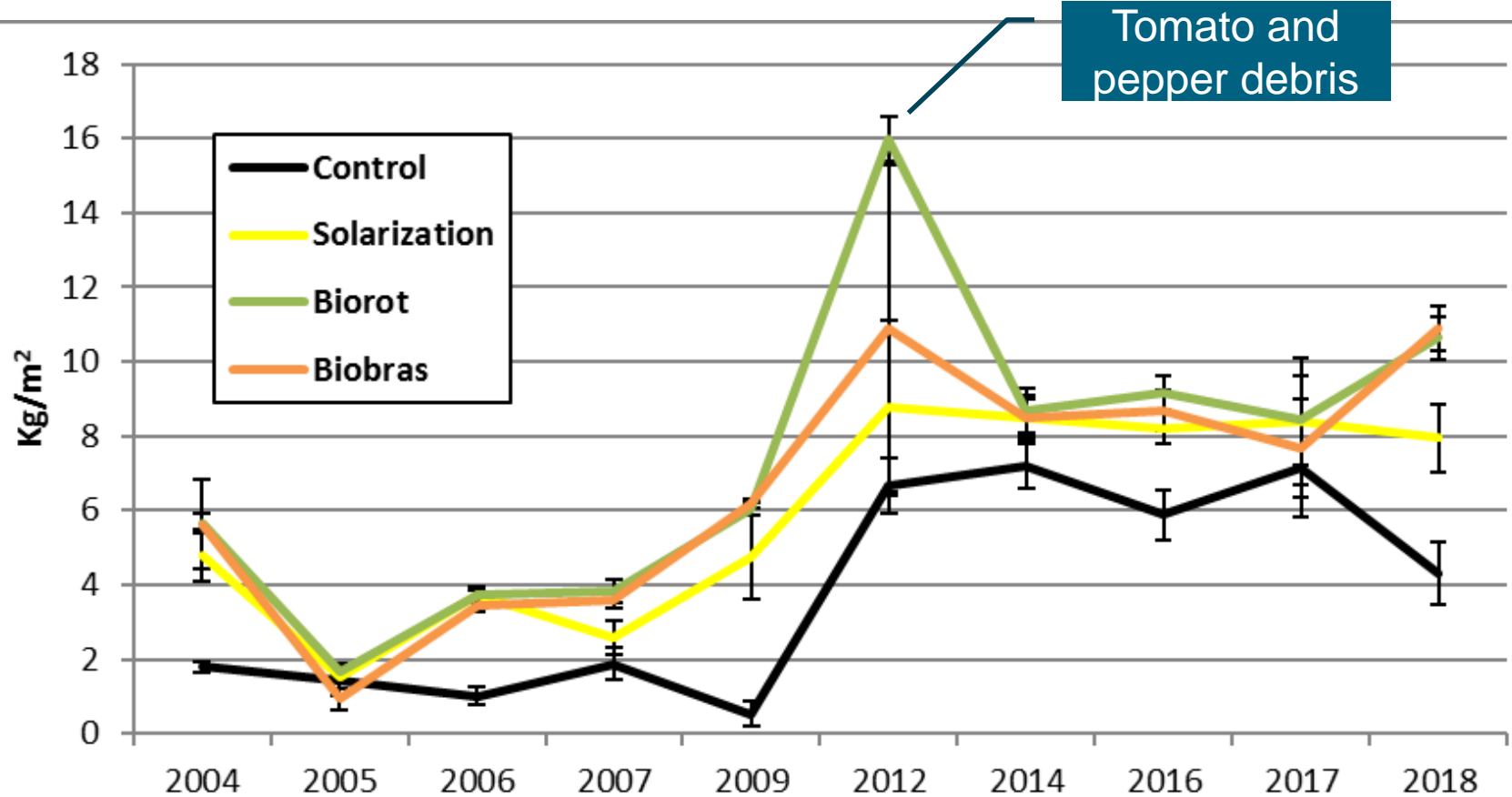
B= before; A= after treatments. Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas.

# Effect of treatments on soil organic matter



B= before; A= after treatments. Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas.

# Effect of treatments on tomato yield



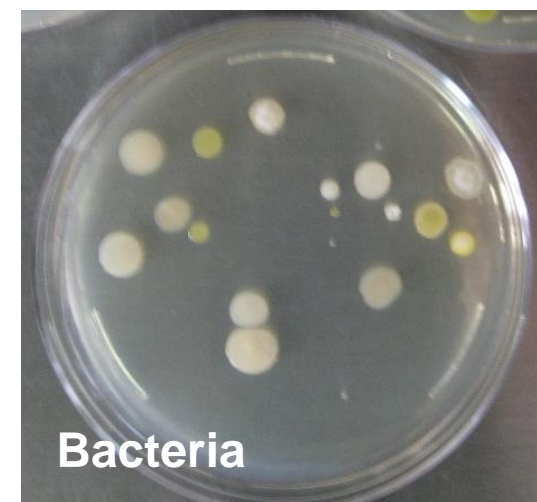
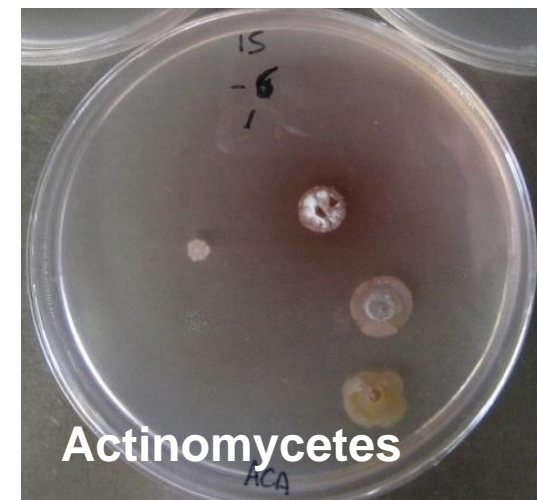
Biorot= succession of different organic matters, Biobras= biofumigation with Brassicas.

# Actinomycetes and Bacteria population in biosolarized soils, 17 months after treatments (Peralta, 2017)

ANOVA and means for bacteria and actinomycetes CFUs  $10^6/g$  of soil before transplanting.

	<i>Actinomycetes</i>	<i>Bacteria</i>
<b>Trat.</b>	<b>6.25**</b>	<b>3.00*</b>
<b>Rep</b>	0.65 N/S	5.29**
<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	0,33	0,38
<b>CV</b>	19,07	12,46
<b><math>\bar{X}</math></b>	1,87	6,71
<b>Trat.</b>	<i>Actinomycetes</i>	<i>Bacteria</i>
Control	2.15 ± 0.39 bc	31.3 ± 4.7 b
Solarization	1.64 ± 0.24 c	36.6 ± 2.1 ab
Rotation of biofumigant	2.75 ± 0.30 ab	33.4 ± 3.8 b
Biosolarization with Brassicas	4 ± 0.54 a	42.4 ± 0.4 a

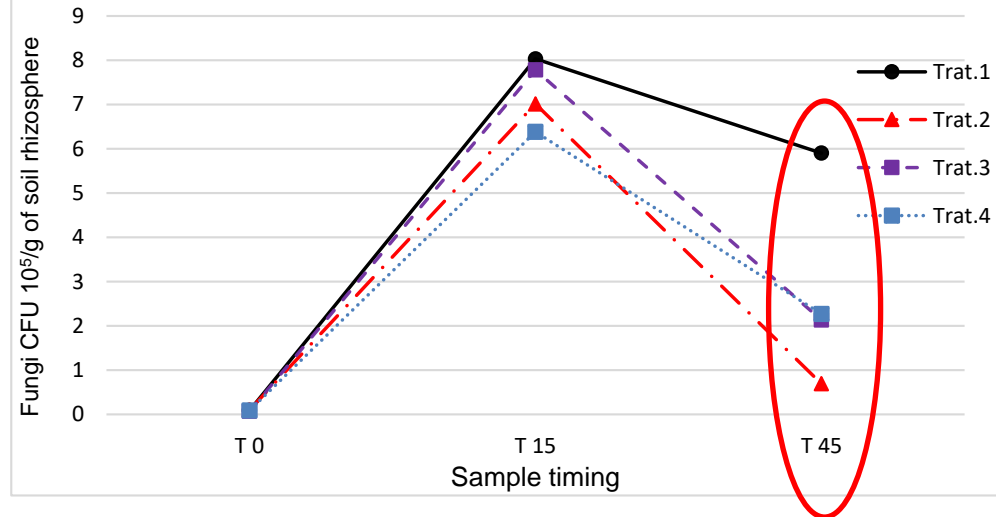
R<sup>2</sup>= Determination coefficient ; CV= Variation coefficient; \* = Significant with  $P \leq 0,05$ ; \*\* =Significant with  $P \leq 0,01$ ; ns= not significant.



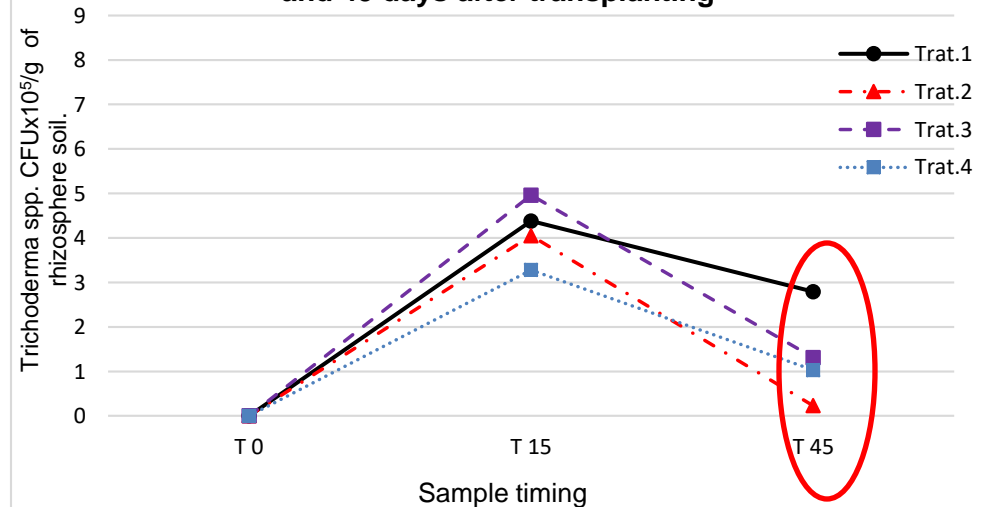


# Fungi community in young tomato plants rhizosphere

Fungi population in the rhizosphere 0, 15 and 45 days after transplanting



*Trichoderma spp.* population in the rhizosphere 0, 15 and 45 days after transplanting

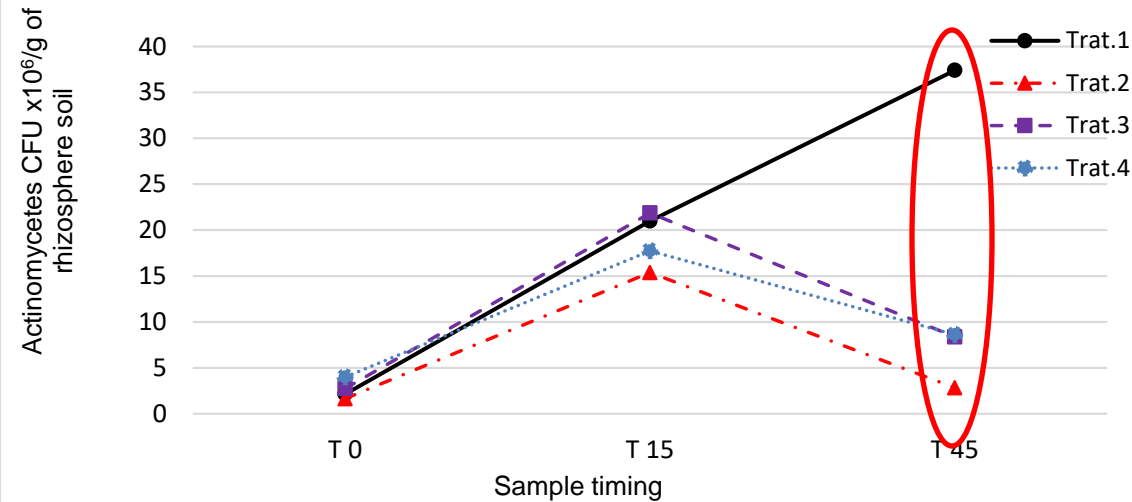


50% of fungi isolated from the rhizosphere where *Trichoderma spp.*  
Peralta, R.; 2017

*Trichoderma spp.* population in the rizoplane was  $10^5$  CFU, superior to a dose obtained applying a commercial product dose  $10^4$  UFC.

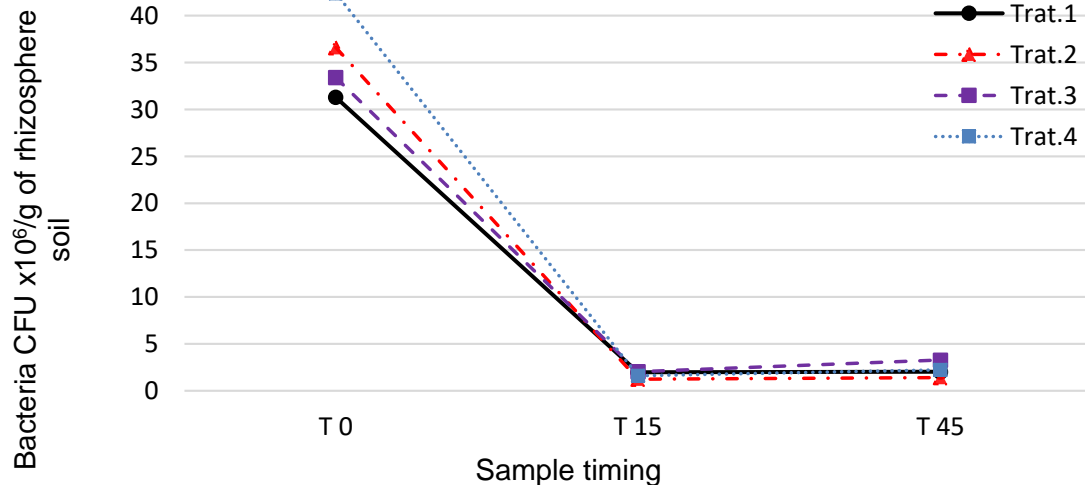
# Actinomycetes and bacteria in young tomato plants rhizosphere

Actinomycetes population in the rhisphere 0, 15 y 45 días after transplanting



**Significant differences between treatments, higher values for the control at 45 days after transplanting**

Bacteria population in the rhizosphere 0, 15 y 45 días after transplanting



**No differences between treatments for bacteria population.**



**Good results were also obtained with other crops as lettuce, spinach, grafted tomato plants, broccoli, beets, sweet potato for seedlings production, etc.**

**Biofumigation in combination with solarization is an effective technique for managing soilborne pathogens in greenhouses and is being adopted by horticultural growers in Argentina.**



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# Biosolarization as a component of IPM

Chromatic traps

Pheromone traps

Natural fungicides  
(*Melaleuca alternifolia*,  
garlic, Equisetum)

Biosolarization

Plant traps



¡Tomatoes with 0 residues of chemical synthesis plaguicides residues!




**Biofumigation 7**  
plants for soil health  
[www.agroscope.ch/biofumigation7](http://www.agroscope.ch/biofumigation7)

22-26 March 2021  
on-line Event



**¡Thank you for you attention!**

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